

"There are reasons to believe that the opening of a second front in Europe is not far off . . . This impending invasion of Eastern Europe will hasten victory considerably, and strengthen our union still more with the United States and Britain . . .

"The war is nearing the ultimate issue. Victory will be won sooner . . . Quicker blows by the Red army on the eastern front will be supported by the main forces of the Allies on the west."

War & The Working Class,
semi-official organ of the
Soviet Union, published in
Moscow.



For those who will not be *Mentally Marooned*



At the outset of this war military specialists estimated our casualties as high as a million a yr, for the duration. (The term "casualty" of course in a military sense includes not only the killed but the wounded, missing, and prisoners of war.)

On the basis of foregoing estimates, it is interesting to note the records made public this mo, covering the 1st 23 mo's of American participation. The total casualties for all branches of the service, was 120,967. Of this number, 25,389 represented deaths. This is less than half the number of American casualties in the 19 mo's of World War I. Today, tho our Army numbers close to 7,700,000 we have overseas just about the same number of men we had on Armistice Day '18—2,086,000.

These figures mean, if we analyze them realistically, that we have been at war two yrs without, as yet, getting very deeply into the fighting. No one can say what may develop when we begin earnestly to storm the fortified bastions of Europe.

There is one point, however, that is well worth stressing: a far higher percentage of wounded are being reclaimed than in any conflict in human history. Army figures, just released, show that while 6% of the wounded in the last war died, the percentage now is 3.5. For the navy, comparative figures are 7.35 against 3.16. And for the marines, 12% compared with the present 3.15. These percentages may not stand under febrile battle conditions, but many thousands of lives will be saved thru improved techniques.

WORLD WEEK

Quote prophesies . . .

BIG-THREE PARLEY: It will of course come suddenly, without preliminary announcement or build-up—and it may be in the very near future. Possibly sensational news may be revealed on or before Dec. 7 anniversary.

POSTAL RATES: Barring last-min pressure by business interests, indications are Congress will act (HR 3687) to increase Third Class (circular) mail rate from present 1c per oz to 2c. Action is taken, apparently, without consulting Post Office or House postal committee. Large mailers assert that instead of increasing revenues \$74.5 millions, as estimated, extra burden will result in diminished postal income, due to reduced mailing schedules. Last-min effort is being made to recommit the tax bill.

Our invasion of the Gilbert islands has, of course, two immediate strategic objectives: to drive the enemy from these mandated islands, and to shorten by hundreds of mi the American supply lines to the s-w Pacific.

Obviously, the daring move could not have been made without strong aerial support, to prevent Japs from reinforcing their beleaguered garrisons. Dispatches point out that Liberators continually bombed Nauru and the Marshalls immediately following our landing operations. This protective course will be continued.

Probably our Pacific strategists have the hope, by this bold gesture, of bringing important units of the Japanese navy from harbor hiding so that they may be engaged in open battle. This is a desire that has been often expressed of late.

Next move in this sector of the Pacific (tho it cannot be expected for some time to come) will doubtless be toward the Marshall islands, and thence into the Carolines, site of enemy naval stronghold.

This new dramatic move should not cause us to lose sight of, or interest in, the s-w Pacific, where the battle for Bougainville, last Solomon stronghold continues. The enemy at mid-wk was reported as hopelessly trapped, tho it may be another mo before our planes can operate freely from this island for the knockout blow at Rabaul.

RUSSIA: There is not much news from the Zhitomir area, in the n-w, where German troops have been making a strong defensive stand. However, Russian gains of Kremenchug approach the Dnepropetrovsk bridgehead, and there's renewed talk of trapping "hundreds of thousands" of Nazis in the Dnieper bend area.

BERLIN: Blackest headlines of the wk were reserved for powerful Allied raids on German capital. This may be anticipated "knock-out".

At this time it may be well to caution against too ready acceptance of specific figures, as quoted in news dispatches. This applies both to number of planes participating and vol of bombs dropped. Remember that official sources disclose no figures. Any statements such as "1000 planes participated" or "more than 2000 tons of bombs were dropped" should be viewed as estimates. They represent best guesses of correspondents and neutral observers. However, in case of the Monday night raid, exact language of British air ministry is worth noting. The raid was described as of "very great strength." First time this phrase has been used in a raid on Berlin.

ITALY: Rain continues to reign, with both sides, at mid-wk pretty well bogged down in mud.

Quote

"He Who Never Quotes, is Never Quoted"—Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"Mr Rommel, count your army now!"—Cry of a Negro artillery sergeant, in hot pursuit of Germans. This battle yell, uttered every time one of the big guns was fired, was taken up by his companions, has now become slogan of U S forces in Mediterranean.

"I got this way by hard work!"—WARREN BUTLER, Lincoln, Me, celebrating his 100th birthday.

"Now I can start thinking about my old age again!"—An American Airman, invalidated to U S from a European battlefield.

"Not all wolves wear sheep's clothing—some wear GI uniforms."—Col DAVID R STINSON, addressing WACs upon their arrival in Algiers.

"Confusion and distrust reign thruout the land."—Gov JOHN W BRICKER, of Ohio, formally announcing his availability as Republican Presidential nominee.

"We are getting recruits from various sources. We see our way clear now forever—or at least well into next yr."—C G POWER, Canadian air minister.

"We've been engaged for 4 mo's now. That's a long time for me. My engagements—the real ones, I mean—usually don't last more than 2 or 3 mo's. Lt Davis likes books and things like that." — CHOO CHOO JOHNSON, of Star & Garter, commenting on her engagement to Lt TRUE DAVIS, Navy flier.

"May we
Quote
you on that?"

"America got too many everything!"—JAP soldier taken prisoner on Attu.

"A good many patriotic Americans are opposed to having the New Deal name the '44 Republican candidate." — WHEELER McMILLEN, farm journal editor and potential Republican candidate for Pres, parrying the query, "Are you working to head off the nomination of Willie?"

"May Jesus prop him up!"—MINDA, Negro cleaning woman in Baruch household when told her employer had taken on a big new job "to help poor folks."

"Asked, 'When is the war going to end?' my reply has always been, 'When we win it!'—WALTER WINCHELL, denying he has ever made specific forecast of war's duration.

"The enemy believed he could build sufficient fighters to stop our bombing, but he did not count on our use of Thunderbolts and Lightnings for escorts. We have defeated him at every turn."—Gen WM E KEPNER, chief of 8th Air Force fighter command.

"Marines are not such good jungle fighters. But the trouble is the marines tear down the jungle. After awhile there is no jungle left to fight in."—A captured Japanese infantry officer.

"We have heard it said that we shall 'knock the hell out of the Japanese.' But let us see to it that the war knocks the hell out of us also—the hell of selfishness, snobishness, racial prejudice, and the like. . . A new America must come before we can create a new world. Christianity will work only when we work for Christianity."—Chaplain DARLINGTON, Army & Navy Chaplain.

"Take the hobbies off the people. Give them a chance to think and act in the American way. People can solve their own post-war problems. I've seen them do so after three wars."—JOHN N GARNER, former v-p of U S, on his 75th birthday.

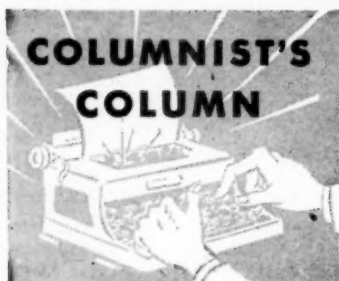
"When a soldier strikes an officer he is shot. When an officer strikes a soldier, it is denied."—DREW PEARSON, columnist, commenting on case of Lt-Gen GEO S PATTON, Jr., whose action in striking sick soldier (at first denied, later admitted) is causing wide indignation.

"The idea that liquor is being hoarded for speculative purposes is absurd. Liquor has not been produced for over a yr, and people, having more money, are drinking more."—Mrs IDA B WISE, nat'l pres, WCTU.

Quote

is issued weekly by QUOTE SERVICE, Maxwell Droke, Publisher. Business and Editorial Offices Droke House, 1014 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, Indiana. Subscription rates \$5.00 per year in advance, in the United States and Possessions. Two years, \$8.00. Your own and a Gift subscription, \$8.00. Foreign \$7.00 per year. Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office at Indianapolis, Indiana, under Act of March 3, 1879. QUOTE uses no original manuscripts, and does not accept advertising. Speakers, writers and editors using material from QUOTE should credit original sources. Unidentified items may be credited to QUOTE. This is Vol. 6, No. 22





The "Volunteer" Alibi

RUTH MILLET

There are a lot of able-bodied childless women, who are using volunteer war work as an excuse for not taking on a full-time job.

When Uncle Sam, thru an adv or spokesman says to such a woman, "You're needed in a full-time job," she says, "Who, ME? Why I'm already taking part in the war effort."

And then she goes on to tell about the time she spends at a USO club, or how she makes surgical dressings once a wk, or how many sweaters she has knitted since Pearl Harbor.

She produces her volunteer work to convince others and herself that she is doing all she can to help win the war.

But she is only rationalizing. She must know that the volunteer war work is important it can, and should be, done by women who are too old or too young for full-time jobs and by women who must stay at home and take care of small children, but can get away an afternoon or two each wk, and by working girls who can spend an afternoon off, or a night to two each wk at a volunteer job.

Women who aren't tied down by small children are needed as full-time workers who will re-arrange their lives so that nothing interferes with their jobs. . . . They must realize that. Volunteer war work is not for them to hide behind, or to use as assurance that they are making a great war effort. The way they can make sure they are doing their part is to take on a full-time job—and keep it.—Scripps-Howard newspapers.

CHARITY

There is much truth in the observation that charity eases the conscience of the rich more often than it eases the condition of the poor.—IRVING H. FLAMM, *An Economic Program for a Living Democracy* (Liveright).

CHIVALRY—Modern

He (at the movies)—Can you see all right?

She—Yes.

He—Is there a draught on you?

She—No.

He—Is your seat comfortable?

She—Yes.

He—Will you change places with me?—*Yale Record*.

CHRISTIANITY—

Definition

The Christian Church is not a congregation of righteous people. It is a society of those who know they are not good.—Rev DWIGHT E. STEVENSON, Memorial church, Bethany, W. Va.

COMPLACENCY—Nat'l

People too easily say, "Europe is a mess" or that this or that European nation is "weak". This is wrong, whether said by American, Italian or French. If this war has proved anything, it has proved that there are no superior nations. It is against the absurdity of racial superiority that we fight.—Count SPORZA, "Farewell to America", *Free World*, 11-'43.

DRINK—Drinking

One night, in England, Dr. Torrey, American evangelist, rec'd a note: "If you are so good as you pretend, can you walk on water?"



IT'S AN
IDEA!

Two local couples seem to have solved the problem of enjoying life in wartime. They decided the usual Sunday evening spent in driving around traffic-jammed sts, or in a night club was no good. So they started the Twilight hr. Each Sunday at dusk, they meet in one home or the other. Their only illumination is a flickering candle. They chat, or just sit and meditate in the warm aura of friendship. Later, they turn on lights and play bridge for a couple of hrs. Each session, they contribute \$1 per person (much less than they might spend at some cafe). Every now and then, this fund is devoted to a worthy cause.—ANTHONY WEITZEL, *Detroit Free-Press*.

Dr. Torrey read the question aloud and replied, "Yes, my friend, a great deal better than I can on whiskey."—*Church Management*. . .

FAME

This tale floats up (verified) from Tia Juana of the Chinese who was opening a new cafe. He asked a friend for a suitable name. After some thought the latter suggested, "Confucius Cafe."

Deliberating at length, the Chinese asked: "Who is Confucius?" —Mrs TICK OTIS, *San Francisco Chronicle*.

The Dread

Then I perceived that people had a dread
That untaught should be taught, and starving fed.
They were afraid, lest taught and fed should rise
Not on the horrors of their miseries,
Not on their rags, their drunkenness and itch,
Their lice and ignorance, but on the rich.
This common dread amid the general dark
Was social conscience's expiring spark.

—JOHN MASEFIELD, "Wonderings",
The Atlantic, 11-'43.

The Balkan Picture Puzzle

Yugoslavia is to many of us the most confusing country in Europe. We have the picture of two factions alternately fighting each other and the common enemy, each accusing the other of all manner of crimes and collusions. What goes on? LOUIS ADAMIC, in his newest book, *My Native Land* (Harper, \$3.75) tells the story of the past decade. Born in what is now Yugoslavia in '99, he came to U S at 14; has frequently ret'd to the Balkans on research missions and maintains confidential information sources. His book should be read by all who wish to peer back of headlines.

Present differences, of course, predate war. Mikhailovich represents exiled gov't, status quo, reaction. His policy, briefly: hold an army together; await Allied invasion. In contrast, we have Josip Brozovich (commonly known as Tito), for many yrs head of Communist party in Yugoslavia. He kept underground movement alive thru terror period of Alexander's dictatorship; naturally has little liking for exiled gov't. His policy: do anything to relieve Russia; fight enemy wherever he can be found, regardless of reprisals inflicted upon civilians. Now, for a bit more Balkan background, in Mr Adamic's own words:

Average Yugoslavian is pro-Russian. It is the Slav in him. He is for Russia even when he is more or less anti-Communist. This was true before the war; became doubly so from June '41.

Motive of many partisan guerrilla leaders in engaging Germans and Italians in warfare was to quickly relieve pressure on Russian front and keep Axis divisions away from Red army. This was certainly true of those Partisan leaders who were Communists and to whom survival of Soviet Union was prerequisite of any future that interested them.

The plain villager or small-town-er, however, realizing that greatest power in Europe had sentenced his nation to slow extermination, could not think first of what was good for Russia. All-important to him was that Axis was wiping out whole villages (in retribution for acts of partisans).

In this fearful situation, some

peasants organized anti-Partisan guerrilla bands, while others joined Mikhailovich outfits. In some instances this anti-Partisan movement, being essentially appeasement, was aided by quisling Nedich's snake-in-the-grass Gestapo stool-pigeons.

One can call this appeasement—now a word of contempt. But that is over-simplification. It was a natural but unthinking attempt at self-preservation. Around it swirled the whole nightmare. Behind it was something primitive, analogous to early human urges when, in extreme dread of things beyond their control, men turned on one another to the slaughter of those closest to them, to human sacrifice, in order to propitiate the elements, to divert the non-human wrath. . .

But stronger than the appeasing tendency of the anti-guerrillas and Mikhailovich was the tendency to fight the enemy at any and all costs.

GERMANY—Future

To know what to do with Germany, is to know what to do with Prussia. Never again must Prussia be permitted to attain leadership among German states. It must be isolated as a special republic. . . The world can then receive valuable contributions from Germany without having to take Prussian defiance into the bargain.—EMM LUDWIG, "Meet the Prussians", *Mag Digest*, 12-'43.

Ernie on Etiquette

Finally we got off onto column writing and how long it takes each of us. Ordinarily Mrs. Roosevelt dictates hers at the end of the day, in about half an hr. I told her it took me a half day to write a col. "Yes" she said, "but you write a much better col than I do!" Since it is bad taste to dispute the opinion of the First Lady, I just spluttered into my tea.—ERNE PYLE.



Why Cannot Churches visit Prisoners of War?—An Editorial, *Christian Century*, 11-10-'43.

More than 140,000 Italians and German prisoners of war have been brought from the European theaters of war and are now in U S. Publication of this figure by the War Dep't raises new questions concerning the responsibilities involved in their presence in this country.

Following the practice of Germany, Russia and other powers, large contingents of prisoners in U S were employed last summer on farms of the middle west. While there is no reason to think that humane provisions of the Geneva convention are not being followed in arrangements for the physical care of prisoners in U S, the situation is one which will bear watching. The temptation to exploit labor which has no voice of its own, and which is administered under the conditions which surround all military detention, is very great.

For this reason, and for others even more important, the camps should be opened to regular visitation by representatives of some responsible non-gov't agency. None fills this prescription quite as well as the churches. They have legitimate and significant purposes of their own to serve among the prisoners in the camps. Their obligation to render to all men the ministrations of religion constitutes a fully sufficient reason why they should be granted free access thru their accredited representatives to the internment centers.

The presence of these representatives within the camps would also provide a wholesome deterrent against the kind of abuses which almost inevitably accrue to any system of penal labor.

News of the New

INVENTION: It's amusing and amazing to observe devices on which patents are issued. Latest: a "juke box" fire alarm. Instead of sounding alarm at fire station, device releases a voice record. Fire box has levers to indicate large, small or medium blaze. Don't know what might happen if an excited patron pulled all levers simultaneously!

" "

MEDICINE: Lake Co (Ill) Tuberculosis Sanitarium is now making 1st tests of diason on humans. This is phosphorus-containing compound (not a "sulfa" drug) which may control tuberculosis chemically as sulfonamides control streptococcus infection. Science is still a long way from final solution, but may be on the track of something tremendously important.

Dr Philipp Schonwald, Seattle, Wash, scientist, reports new bacteria killer similar to penicillin. Unlike that drug, which is developed from a specific strain, as sour dough is used to start new batch of bread, the new "F-substance" is developed directly from spore of fungi abounding in the ground and floating in air.

" "

POSTAL SERVICE: P O Dep't plans a streamlined form of money-order to be known as "postal notes." Printed in even-dollar denominations, for quantity sale. User adds odd cts to face value by affixing postage stamps of desired value. To be cashed at any post office or bank.

" "

TRANSPORTATION: The new tubular steel ry axle (Pittsburgh Steel Co) is now in quantity production. Stronger, more economical to operate than old-style solid steel, weighs 260 lb less; saves \$7 to \$15 per car in annual operating cost. Constructed of seamless steel tubing, axles have 56% greater resistance to bending. Will last 4 times longer than solid shaft.

British tankers are now fitted with a new compressed air device for use when torpedoed. Details are not revealed, but it is reported that "tanker after tanker" has been brought to port after receiving damage which, without this aid would have been fatal.

"You Don't Say!"

Britishers are eating potatoes 3 times a day, thus supplying themselves with vitamin C, which their diet lacks. They are high in energy and also contain bones and teeth. — "Things Worth Knowing", Toledo Blade.

" "

This . . . party will not interfere with the scheduled blackout as there are no widows in the auditorium.—Menominee (Mich) Herald-Leader.

HARMONY—with Infinite

The minister's little daughter, watching him prepare his sermon, asked: "Daddy, does God tell you what to write?"

"Certainly, my dear."

"Then why do you scratch out so much of it?"—The Protestant Voice.

INGENUITY

A little old man laden down with parcels and a large umbrella boarded a Madison Avenue bus during the rush hour. After traveling several blocks insecurely suspended from a strap, he addressed a young woman sitting near him.

"Young lady, I'd be willing to pay you a nickel for your seat," he said.

The girl looked uncertain and unhappy and finally got up and pushed toward the rear of the bus without having expressed any interest in the five cents.

The little old man sat down and winked at one of his neighbors. "They never take it," he whispered. —New Yorker.

LABOR—Scarcity

Having a few wks between pictures, actor Bruce Bennett decided to complete the furnishing of his home. He went to a company which does cabinet work on special order. "Sorry" he was told "we're so far behind on gov't orders we can't make any furniture."

As Bennett turned to leave, the mgr had a bright idea: "I'll make you a proposition. We're short of help. If you'll work for us for a month, we'll turn out your furniture as soon as we have finished the gov't order." Bennett said okay. —JIMMIE FIDLER, Hollywood col.

Confidentially thru a Megaphone

You can pretty confidently anticipate that some plan of used-car rationing will be put in force within the next few wks. It may be that plan, at the outset will cover only commercial vehicles, with passenger cars to follow. Idea, of course, is to prevent drainage from essential war needs.

Liquor scarcity is developing a new form of vendor: the "hip-pocket" bar. Perambulating peddlers now sell whisky by the drink, direct from bottle which they carry with them. They do a thriving business in some urban areas. . . OPA, by the way, is not discouraging the practice of some dealers who keep their ltd liquor stocks under counter, available only to regular customers. As long as price ceilings are not violated, authorities say this plan is okay. It's a check against hoarding.

American Legion seeks classification as a service agency, so that it can operate within military camps, thus keep in closer touch with armed forces. (At present, Red Cross is only service unit permitted to operate in a camp.) Legion plans active role in rehabilitation and aid for men discharged from service.

Surprising number of civilians have been trying to obtain furloughs for men in service. Don't do it! Application from a civilian only prejudices military commanders, may make things tougher for your fighting man. In extreme emergency, take your case to local Red Cross. If serviceman's presence really needed, they may be able to effect release.

Capt Clark Gable, now in U S after a photographic mission in England, is telling intimates his big trouble taking sound films around army bases was language of GIs. Talk wasn't always the elevating sort one would want to preserve for posterity.

MARRIED LIFE

In moments of domestic fury, you can fly at a man and pummel him with your fists, you can scratch him with your fingernails, you can kick him in the ankles, you can grind your heel into his toes, and he will take it all—but if you dare to slap his face, even quite lightly, that's the end.—KATHERINE BRUSH, in her syndicated col.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

At Liege one of the control services has been set up in the ancient Prince Bishops' palace. Belgians who have to go there on business must pass before a huge portrait of Hitler. A frank hand has written below this portrait these simple words: "Spitting is Forbidden"—*News of Belgium.*



"Let me urge that we keep clear to two besetting sins—hardness of heart and softness of head."—THEODORE ROOSEVELT " " " "Merely having an open mind is nothing. The object of opening the mind, as of opening the mouth, is to shut it again on something solid."—GILBERT K CHESTERSON " " " "The world is moving so fast these days that the man who says it can't be done is generally interrupted by someone doing it."—ELBERT HUBBARD " " " "Criticism is something you can avoid by saying nothing, doing nothing and being nothing."—UNKNOWN.

PRIDE—in Work

Robert Henri, the well-known artist, was attending a private showing of new pictures in a New York gallery. He was standing before a fine Sargent, when his attention was attracted by a big brawny individual, who looked like anything but an artist, engaged in admiring the same canvas and murmuring: "They have given me a good place at last."



Help in a Hurry!

ELIZABETH HENNEY

"What will happen if my boy gets hurt?" "How soon will he get medical attention?" If you have been asking yourself such questions, be reassured. The medical dept of the Army is keeping pace with the advance of our forces. Improvements in equipment provide quick medical and surgical aid for more and more men at the front.

Newest development is the surgical operating truck.

Prior to our entrance in the war, a mobile surgical-hospital unit, calculated to go to the front lines was developed. It was a splendid affair. The unit consisted of 7 trucks. There was only one difficulty. It was so heavy that when it got off fine macadam road, it was apt to bog down in soft earth or sand. Unfortunately, the enemy was not thoughtful enough to stay near good roads.

So, very shortly there was developed the "surgical truck." In the new improved model, instead of a wide open space in the center for

an operating table, that space is utilized for the supplies for operations sufficient to care for 80 to 100 casualties in a 24-hr period.

In a light trailer behind is carried a double hospital tent, interlined with white duck, for better lighting and cleanliness. Following this sturdy truck are two jeeps full of "operating crews". These crews—two of them to each truck—consist of 7 or 8 people, including doctors, nurses, hospital assistants.

These groups may pause at an evacuation hospital, so overcrowded it can't handle all casualties, or perhaps press on to a spot right up at the front lines.

The truck pulls up and stops. Out pops the staff from the jeeps. In a matter of minutes the white-lined tent is erected, an operating table set up on each side, the truck's back door opened at one door of the tent, and from the truck with its sterilizers, cabinets, scrub sinks, etc., nurses and assistants are passing equipment to the already busy doctors, and the job of saving that boy has begun.—Abridged from the *Washington Post*.

Henri was immediately interested. "You are in this sort of work?" he inquired.

Been in it for twenty yrs," replied the brawny one, "and this is the first time I ever got on the line."

"Ah, indeed?" exclaimed Henri. "And where is your picture?"

The stranger pointed to the Sargent. "Right there," he replied.

"That?" said Henri. "Why, Sargent painted that!"

"Painted it!" sniffed the brawny man. "Yes, I think Sargent was the name of the man that painted it, but it was me who made the frame."—*Christian Science Monitor.*

RESPONSIBILITY—

Acceptance

Since you have to bear your responsibility anyway, try to do it with good grace. . . The minute

you're willing to do a thing, half the sting is gone.—MARY S RUSSELL, "What Old Person Do You Have to Support?", *Good Housekeeping*, 11-'43.

STEADFASTNESS

H R Knickerbocker, war correspondent for *Chicago Sun* reports that a leaflet is now being distributed by German high command to its troops in Italy. Printed in German, it begins with the English sentence:

"I can't say it."

"Why do the English and Americans, when taken prisoner, reply to every question, 'I can't say it'? In every situation, this is the only answer.

"You, too, can some day be in a position to remember this answer. You must answer every question of the enemy with 'I can't say it'."

GEMS FROM Yesteryear

Appointment in Samarra
W SOMERSET MAUGHAM

This brief bit, which sounds a rather grisly fatalistic note, is an epigraph, prefixed to an unpublished play. The author, as you doubtless know, was born in England (1874), where he still makes his home. He has traveled widely, spending much time in the S Seas, and has been a frequent visitor to the U S. He has written many successful novels, plays and short stories. One of the latter, some yrs ago, formed the basis of the popular stage play, *Rain*.

Death speaks: There was a merchant in Bagdad who sent his servant to the market to buy provisions.

In a little while the servant came back white and trembling and said, "Master, just now in the market-place I was jostled by a man in the crowd, and when I turned I saw it was Death. He looked at me and made a threatening gesture. Now, lend me your horse and I will go to Samarra, and there Death will not find me."

The merchant lent his horse, and the servant mounted, and as fast as the horse could gallop, he went.

" "

The merchant went down to the market-place and saw me standing in the crowd and came to me and said:

"Why did you make a threatening gesture to my servant when you saw him this morning?"

"That was not a threatening gesture," I said. "It was only a start of surprise. I was astonished to see him in Bagdad, for I had an appointment with him tonight in Samarra."

New View

Girls, when they went out to swim Once dressed like Mother Hubbard. Now, they have a bolder whim;

They dress more like her cupboard.
L & N Magazine.

Good Stories YOU CAN USE...

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

EARL GODWIN

Radio News Commentator

"Marse" Henry Watterson, owner and publisher of the *Louisville Courier-Journal* in the old days, was the despair of his accounting dept. When he needed a bit of spending money, the old gentleman had a habit of going downstairs to the business office, opening the cash drawer and taking what he wanted.

Finally a young bookkeeper, after spending hrs trying to balance the records, exacted a promise from the penitent "Marse" Henry. "All right young fellow" he said, "the next time I take out money, I'll put in a slip."

True to his word, Mr Watterson, on his next foraging expedition, duly filled out and deposited a memo. It said eloquently: "Took it all!"

The phone rang sharply. The Officer-of-The-Day picked up the receiver. Came the voice of a sailor on watch in one of the offices of a large training camp. "Sir," he reported, "we have a mouse in our office."

"What color is it?" demanded the irate O-O-D.

"Grey, sir," came the reply.

"All right," snapped the officer. "Arrest it. It's out of uniform."—ELIZABETH BEMIS, on a CBS news broadcast.

" "

Friend of ours took his 5-yr-old daughter to the circus recently. When the audience had finished applauding a sensational acrobatic team, she turned to her father, wearing a puzzled frown. "Daddy" she asked, "why is everybody making patty cake?"—KENNETH NICHOLS, *Akron Beacon-Journal*.

The butcher was chatting with a customer when a woman rushed in and interrupted the conversation.

"Give me 10c worth of cat meat—quick!" she commanded imperiously. Then, turning to the other customer she said, lamely, "I hope you won't mind my being served before you."

The first woman eyed her coldly. "Not if you're as hungry as all that."—*Capper's Wkly*.

WISECRACKS of the Week

Things have got so confused in Washington that even the German spies don't know what's going on.—PAUL SMALL, quoted in *Mag Digest*.

" "

We salute the crew of bold U S airmen who recently shot down nine Zeroes. Do you suppose they could do that to the nat'l debt?—*Grit*.

" "

It's hard to date women war workers. They aren't satisfied with a good time—they want time and a half.—*Philnews*, h m Phillips Petroleum.

" "

The reason Hitler has such a sour puss: He gets up every morning on the wrong side of the channel.

Young Oswald had just been enrolled at a "progressive" school. His grandmother, who did not quite "take" to the newer knowledge was asked how the boy was getting along and what he had learned.

"Oh, he's progressing nicely" she replied. "He has learned that he will have to be vaccinated, that his eyes aren't mates, that his teeth need repairing, and that his method of breathing is entirely obsolete."

